

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 CIAE-00 FRB-01 INR-07

NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02 CIEP-02

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INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6715

UNCLAS KINSHASA 1761

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTIO, CG

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: OFFICE DES ROUTES ROAD MAINTENANCE PROJECT

REF: (A) KINSHASA 1483, (B) KINSHASA A-24, FEB 20, 1976

1. SUMMARY. REF A PROVIDES DETAILS ON GOZ TENDER (DEADLINE APRIL 21, 1976) FOR ABOUT \$5-6 MILLION IN ROAD MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT TO BE FINANCED BY WORLD BANK LOAN. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT SUPPLIER WINNING THIS BID WILL HAVE INSIDE TRACK TO SUPPLY ROAD MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT FOR SECOND IDA-FINANCED PILOT ROAD MAINTENANCE PROJECT TO BEGIN IN 1977.

2. BACKGROUND: GOZ HAS OBTAINED A 26 MILLION DOLLAR CREDIT FROM THE WORK BANK (IDA WINDOW) TO FINANCE HIGHWAY PROJECT IN ZAIRE. PROJECT PROVIDES FUNDS FOR SEVERAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING: ROAD REHABILITATION, TRAFFIC SURVEYS, FEASIBILITY STUDIES, AND A PILOT ROAD MAINTENANCE PROGRAM IN ONE REGION OF ZAIRE, BAS ZAIRE. AS PART OF THE ROAD MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, GOZ OFFICE DES ROUTES RECENTLY ANNOUNCED TENDER FOR \$5-6 MILLION IN ROAD MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT AND SPARES. TENDER REPORTED BY REF A AND SPECIFICATIONS POUCHED TO COMMERCE FEB. 20 UNDER COVER REF B. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS IS APRIL 21, 1976.

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3. FINANCING: THIRD HIGHWAY PROJECT HAS ESTIMATED \$US

40 MILLION PRICE TAG WITH FOREIGN EXCHANGE COMPONENT ESTIMATED AT \$75.28 MILLION. IDA CREDIT OF \$26 MILLION WILL MEET MOST FOREIGN EXCHANGE EXPENSES AND UNDP, GOVERNMENT OF BELGIUM AND GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE ARE HELPING FINANCE THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE COSTS OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. ALL FINANCING FOR THIS EQUIPMENT TENDER COMES FROM IDA.

4. EQUIPMENT DESIRED: REF A PROVIDES COMPLETE LIST OF EQUIPMENT DESIRED. NOTE THAT QUOTE CV UNQUOTE DESCRIBING GRADERS, BULLDOZERS AND EXCAVATORS MEANS "HORSEPOWER."

5. OPPORTUNITY FOR AMERICAN SUPPLIER: THIS PROJECT QUALIFIES BY ITSELF AS MAJOR EXPORT OPPORTUNITY FOR AMERICAN SUPPLIERS. SUPPLIER SHOULD REALIZE, HOWEVER, THAT THIS OPPORTUNITY IS MERELY AN INITIAL PILOT SCHEME FOR ONE OF ZAIRE'S EIGHT REGIONS. IDA EXPECTS TO FUND A SECOND PILOT MAINTENANCE SCHEME IN ANOTHER PROVINCE IN 1977. ROAD MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT IS CRITICAL NEED IN ALL REGIONS OF ZAIRE. SUPPLIER GETTING INITIAL CONTRACT SHOULD BE IN GOOD POSITION TO BID ON FUTURE GOZ ROAD EQUIPMENT PURCHASES.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: (A) NOTIFY APPROPRIATE AMERICAN SUPPLIERS OF THE OPPORTUNITY. (B) ADVISE EMBASSY OF WHETHER TENDER SPECIFICATIONS RECEIVED. (C) ADVISE EMBASSY OF ANY FURTHER DETAILS WE CAN PROVIDE TO HELP INTERESTED FIRMS BID ON THIS PROJECT.

WALKER

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